

Desire the Office of Bishop (part two)

1 Tim 3:3-7

Spiritual leadership.

1. **Blameless**—above reproach
2. **Husband of one wife**—a one woman man...morally pure?
3. **Vigilant**—Watchful, careful, alert to spiritual danger?
4. **Sober**—discrete, sound mind.
5. **of Good behavior**—lifestyle consistent with character of God?
6. **Given to hospitality**—Love to meet needs of people... lover of strangers?
7. **Apt to teach**—teachable spirit...learning how to more effective in the communication of Biblical truth?

1 Timothy 3:3

Not given to wine. Doesn't involve himself in scenes associated with drinking.

Doesn't imply drunkenness.

Does not have reputation as a drinker.

Major difference between the cultural use of wine in the NT and the alcoholic industry today.

Bible condemns drunkenness.

Isaiah 28:7 Isaiah 56: 9-12

Bible times

- No way of measuring alcoholic content.
- Water impure and wine used to purify.
- Eventually come across some potent stuff.

A man who is a drinker has no place in the gospel ministry.

Mac: *He is a poor example, and will surely be the cause of serious sin and disaster in the lives of others who follow his example as drinkers, justifying their indulgence because of their leader. A leader must be a man whose associations are radically different from those of the world, and whose example leads others to righteous conduct, not sin.*

Timothy committed to abstinence.

Little: ie. tea spoon.

no striker, pugnacious. Giver of blows. ... ho reacts to difficulty with physical violence. 2 Timothy 2:24-25

not greedy of filthy lucre; Desire to get rich. Motivated by wealth.

The earth-bound desires of a covetous spirit always clip the wings of faith and love (Geoffery B. Wilson, *The Pastoral Epistles* [Edinburgh: Banner of Truth, 1982], 50).

Patient, (gentle): Forbearing, considerate of others, quick to forgive
Easily pardons human failure.

He doesn't keep score

not a brawler, Uncontentious; peaceful, reluctant to fight.

Quarrelsome person.

Disposition to fight.

Not covetous: lover of silver.

1 Timothy 3:4

Ruleth: To stand before; preside over affairs of family. Manager, governor, administrator, director

Well: beautiful, excellently well. Perception. Family life is exemplary.

having his children in subjection with all gravity;

Having: habit of life. Consistency.

Subjection: to arrange under, to subordinate.

With all gravity. With the strictest regard to propriety.

Mac: *It is not enough for the overseer to have an exemplary personal life, he must also have an exemplary home life. He must not be, like Talkative in Pilgrim's Progress, "a saint abroad, and a devil at home" (John Bunyan, Pilgrim's Progress [reprint; Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1976], 76). The family is the proving ground for leadership skills.*

Must be married?

Wiersbe: *This does not mean that a pastor must be married, or, if married, must have children. However, marriage and a family are probably in the will of God for most pastors. If a man's own children cannot obey and respect him, then his church is not likely to respect and obey his leadership. For Christians, the church and the home are one: We should oversee both of them with love, truth, and discipline.*

1 Timothy 3:5

Rule: superintend, preside over.

Take care of: provide for, be a care giver.

It is impossible for a poor father to become a good pastor.

It is possible for a good father to become a poor pastor

Only good fathers qualify for position of spiritual leadership

Lenski: *Ill-trained, bad children reflect on any pastor. Not merely because they are hurtful examples to the children of the members of the church, but still more because they show that the father is incompetent for his office.*

Application:

- Family first priority
- Practice purposeful neglect.
- Stress immediate obedience with RHA
- Consistent discipline
- Consistent training
- Consistent lifestyle.

1 Timothy 3:6

Novice: new...to spring up...used of a newly planted palm tree...

New convert

Lifted up with pride. Puffed up...raise a smoke...emit smoke...blind with pride or conceit.

Heibert: *The danger is that the novice, wrapped in smoke through his exaggerated sense of self-importance and teeming pride, would have his eyes blinded to realities.*

The elder is to be picked from the most mature believers in the assembly.

Condemnation of the Devil. Lose the power and blessing of God.

Fall to the same pride as the Devil.

Ezek 28, Is 14

Satan enjoys seeing an immature pastor become successful.

Then, becomes proud and eventually everything unravels

1 Timothy 3:7

a good report of them which are without; Good reputation.

Well spoken of in community.

Them which are without: unsaved. Eph 2:12; 1 Cor 5:12-13; Col. 4:5; 1 Thess 4:12

How have effective ministry if people in community don't respect him?

Gromacki: *The problem addressed in this verse, however is a justifiable criticism of the pastor's life by an unsaved man who knew something that the church did not.*

Snare of the Devil: A trap in future ministry of pastor. A hidden snare.

Gromacki: *the church therefore should guard against hasty promotions of unproved candidates (5:22)*

4 things agree in life!

1. What you say about yourself
2. What family sees in life
3. What church sees in life
4. What unsaved sees in life.

Reproach: justifiable criticism of pastor's life by the unsaved community.